

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

By the foregoing amendment, claims 108-111 have been added. Claims 58-111 remain pending.

In the Office Action mailed October 2, 2001, the Patent Office (PTO) renumbered claims 59-108 as claims 58-107 and objected to the informal drawings. Furthermore, the PTO rejected claims 60, 61, 80, 81, 105 and 106 under 35 U.S.C. 112, Second Parag., for indefiniteness, and under 35 U.S.C. 101 for not being proper process claims; claims 58-67, 69, 72-107 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by "Absolute Beginner's Guide to Networking, Second Edition, Mark Gibbs et al." (Network); claims 68 and 70 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 5,465,206 (Hilt); and claim 71 also under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,000,000 (Hawkins).

Renumbering of Claims

Applicants note with appreciation the PTO's renumbering of claims 59-108 as claims 58-107. Accordingly, any amendment and remarks made herein are done in reference to the claim renumbering scheme set forth by the PTO.

Objection to Informal Drawings

With regard to the objection to informal drawings, Applicants will submit formal drawings once the application is placed in condition for allowance.

Rejection of claims 60, 61, 80, 81, 105, and 106 under 35 U.S.C. 112, Second Parag.

With regard to the rejection of claims 60, 61, 80, 81, 105, and 106 under 35 U.S.C. 112, Second Parag., Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection for at least the following reason:

The PTO rejected the aforementioned claims for indefiniteness because

"the claim does not set forth any steps involved in the method/process, it is unclear what method/process applicant is intending to encompass. A claim is indefinite where it

merely recites a use without any active, positive steps delimiting how his use is actually practiced.” Office Action of 10/2/01, p. 12.

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 60, 61, 105 and 106 are system claims. In other words, claims 60, 61, 105, and 106 are not method/process claims and hence do not require any claimed steps commonly found in method/process claims. As for claims 80 and 81, Applicants respectfully submit that they are method/process claims with positive steps recited, as evidenced by independent claim 72, to which claims 80 and 81 depend. And it is further evidenced that the PTO did not reject claim 72 under 35 U.S.C. 112, Second Parag., for indefiniteness due to a lack of positive steps.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the PTO to withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, Second Parag.

Rejection of claims 60, 61, 80, 81, 105, and 106 under 35 U.S.C. 101

The PTO also rejected claims 60, 61, 80, 81, 105, and 106 under 35 U.S.C. 101 because “the claimed recitation of a use, without setting forth any steps involved in the process, results in an improper definition of a process, i.e., results in a claim which is not a proper process claim under 35 U.S.C.101.” The PTO supported this rejection by citing *Ex parte Dunki*, 153 USPQ 678 (Bd. App. 1967) and *Clinical Products, Ltd. v. Brenner*, 255 F. Supp. 131, 149 USPT 475 (D.D.C. 1966). Office Action of 10/2/01, p. 12. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection for at least the following reason:

The two cases *Dunki* and *Clinical* cited by the PTO is not applicable to the present application because: a) as stated earlier, claims 60, 61, 105 and 106 are system claims, whereas *Dunki* and *Clinical* are directed to the rejection of improper method/process claims with no steps; and b) as also stated earlier, claims 80 and 81 are method/process claims with positive steps recited in their independent claim 72, whereas *Dunki* and *Clinical* contain claims directed to methods/processes with no positive steps recited. See MPEP 2173.05(q) for explanation of the holdings in *Dunki* and *Clinical*.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the PTO to withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 101.

Rejection of Claims 58-67, 69, 72-107 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a)

With regard to the rejection of claims 58-67, 69, 72-107 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Network, Applicants respectfully traverse for at least the following reasons:

For claim 58, the PTO rejected the claim based on Network, pp. 322, 323, and 378. However, a review of the cited sections of Network does not reveal a system comprising a mini-app dialog component and a transaction executor component as stated in claim 58. Furthermore, the PTO did not point out any component in Network that would be considered as the claimed mini-app dialog component. In fact, pp. 322-323 of Network refers to the use of LANtastic to provide net login, and p. 378 merely discusses about network security. LANtastic, as known in the art, is a LAN operating system and not a dialog component. Hence, Applicants respectfully submit that Network does not disclose a system comprising two separate components: a mini-app dialog component and a transaction executor component as claimed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 58 and its dependent claims, 59-71 are allowable over the references of record.

Furthermore, for claims 64 and 65, the PTO cited the definition of a presentation layer in the glossary of Network to reject these claims. However, such definition does not teach the mapping of the information from the remote device into a canonical representation of the information as claimed. And again, the Applicants respectfully submit that Network does not disclose a system with all the features, including a presentation manager, arranged as claimed.

For claims 72 and 83, the PTO rejected the claim based on Network, pp. 44, 70-71, 322, 378, and 433. Applicants respectfully submit that the gathering of various different features from various different sections of Network to form the method as claimed constitutes hindsight and cannot be used to anticipate claim 72 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) without further evidence to show that Network in fact discloses a method with the features together as claimed. Indeed, according to MPEP 2131, "the elements [of the asserted prior art] must be arranged as required by the claim." Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 72-107 are allowable over the references of record.

Furthermore, for claim 85, the PTO rejected the claim by asserting that the script to attach and logon described in Network anticipates the navigation shell as claimed. As stated in claim 85, the navigation shell informs the user of available service functions based on the collected user identity and preference information. Whereas, Network's script to attach and logon at most provides a logon screen, and it does not inform the user of available service functions as claimed.

Furthermore, for claim 88, the PTO did not point out what is considered to be a customer services set, and Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed customer services set is not disclosed in Network.

Furthermore, for claims 89-93, they are directed to a customer services set comprising various different components. Applicants respectfully submit that the cited sections in Network for the rejection of these claims do not disclose a customer services set comprising such claimed components.

Furthermore, for claim 94, the PTO rejected this claim based on "an interpretation of login of a user . . . and the session spawn by the login process" in Network, p. 323. Office Action of 10/2/01, p. 20. Even assuming that a session is spawned by the login process in Network, it does not follow that Network discloses a "session controller component . . . for instantiating a session component for a *session bubble associated with the user*" as claimed (Emphasis added.)

Furthermore, for claims 95-101, the PTO rejected these claims based on the PTO's certain given interpretations of Network. However, Applicants respectfully submit that the given interpretations are without support and not inherent to one skilled in the art, and such given interpretations do not anticipate the combination of the features and limitations stated in claims 95-101.

Rejection of Claims 68, 70, and 71 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

It is assumed that the PTO rejected claims 68, 70, and 71 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Network in view of Hilt and Hawkins. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for at least the reasons stated above with regard to Network. Accordingly, Applicants

respectfully submit that the references of record neither disclose nor make obvious the system in claims 68, 70 and 71.

Conclusion

For at least all of the above reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the present invention is neither disclosed nor suggested by the references of record, and the claims now pending patentably distinguish the present invention from the references of record. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and an issuance of a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the disclosure by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made.**"

Should the Examiner determine that any further action is necessary to place this application into better form, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone Applicants' undersigned representative at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

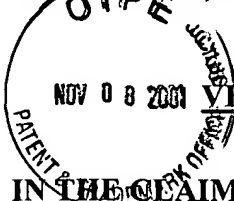
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Date: 11/8/01

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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE****IN THE CLAIMS:****Claims 108-111 have been added as follows:**

108. (New) A system for delivering services from a host site to a remote device, comprising:

a mini-app dialog component that receives a request for a service function from the remote device;

a transaction executor component instantiated by the mini-app dialog component to perform the requested service function; and

a rule broker component that selectively procures business rules from various sources in reply to rule queries from the mini-app dialog component and the transaction executor component.

109. (New) The system of claim 108, wherein the business rules are grouped in geographic region specific sets.

110. (New) A method for delivering services from a host site to one or more users through one or more remote devices, comprising:

receiving a first request for a service function from a first user through a first remote device, wherein the first request for a service function is in a first format designated for a first remote device;

converting the first request for a service function from the first format into a canonical format; and

performing the first requested service function based on the canonical format of the first request for a service function;

wherein performing the first requested service function includes applying a rule broker component to selectively procure business rules grouped in geographic region specific sets from various sources in reply to rule queries.

111. (New) A system for delivering services to a user through a remote device, comprising:

a presentation manager that receives a request for a service function from the user through the remote device and for converting the request into a canonical format;

a transaction executor component that performs the requested service function based on the canonical format; and

a rule broker component that selectively procures and transmits business rules from various sources in reply to rule queries from the transaction executor component and the presentation manager component.